

NEWS RELEASE

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ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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STATE LABOR AGENCY TO HELP KEEP YOUNG WORKERS SAFE

As hundreds of Arkansas teens look for summer jobs, the Arkansas Department of Labor is reminding everyone of the child labor laws that exist to protect our young people. The Arkansas Department of Labor is working to focus awareness on teen worker safety, especially as teens begin to look for summer employment.

James L. Salkeld, Director of Labor said, "Everyone wants young workers to have a positive and safe work place. Our child labor laws help insure the health and safety of teen workers, and we want all teens, their parents and employers to be aware of these laws."

Under state and federal child labor laws, teens are limited in the industries in which they may work and the types of equipment they may use. For instance, 14 and 15 year olds are prohibited from working in construction, manufacturing, and warehousing. They also may not use power driven grinders, choppers, cutters, or mixers; and they may not cook. Federal law prohibits 16 and 17 year olds from some types of jobs. All teens under the age of eighteen

have limits on the number of hours they may work both when school is in session and when school is not in session.

For more information on child labor, contact the Labor Standards Division, Arkansas Department of Labor at 682-9093, or log onto the Arkansas Department of Labor's web site at www.arkansas.gov/labor For information on federal child labor laws, contact the United States Department of Labor at 501-324-5292, or log onto their web site at www.dol.gov